

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Fuerstenwalde

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 2 December 1953

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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- 25X1 1. On 11 November 1953, the Pioneer Kaserne in Fuerstenwalde was occupied by  
 25X1 about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, signal and  
 25X1 motor transport insignia. [redacted]  
 [redacted] Several groups, each of about 10 soldiers  
 carrying baggage, daily left the installation for the Fuerstenwalde railroad  
 station, departing toward Frankfurt/Oder aboard passenger trains. However,  
 as new troops kept arriving, the occupation strength remained about constant.  
 25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1
2. On 11 November, the barracks installation on Braunsdorfer Strasse was occupied  
 by about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal  
 and motor transport insignia. Between 9 and 11 November, [redacted]  
 any training activity, in the barracks area; however, firing with carbines was  
 daily heard from the firing range at the Spree River. At 4:11 p.m. on 9 November,  
 about 50 troops arrived in Fuerstenwalde aboard the passenger train from the  
 direction of Frankfurt/Oder. The troops marched to the installation, preceded  
 by a military band. On 10 and 11 November, a total of about 90 troops, presumably  
 recruits, entered the installation, coming from the direction of the town. [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1
3. On 4 November, the Pioneer Kaserne was occupied as previously by about 250 to  
 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 75 percent with  
 tank insignia. On 16 October, about 50 to 60 troops wearing black-bordered black  
 epaulets were in the wood patch just east of the installation. [redacted]  
 [redacted] a tank unit was stationed in the Pioneer Kaserne. T-34/85 tanks  
 [redacted] 2 T-34 tanks, 2 JS-1 tanks, [redacted]  
 and SU-76 gun [redacted]  
 [redacted] On 7 November, about 150 to 200 troops were  
 lined up for a roll call in the barracks yard. [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1
4. On 7 November, the west section of the barracks installation on Braunsdorfer  
 Strasse was occupied by about 400 to 450 troops wearing red-bordered black  
 epaulets, mostly with artillery insignia, while the east section of the instal-  
 lation was occupied by about 300 to 350 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets,

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including 250 to 300 troops with tank insignia. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted] 4 x 132-mm rocket launchers and 16 x 76-mm AT guns in the barracks area. No training was observed. On 7 November, about 25 to 30 officers and about 400 troops were lined up for a roll call in the west section of the installation and about 300 troops were lined up in the east section. Trucks 25X1 [redacted] were seen en route to and from the installation.

5. On 7 November, a sentry observed at the western gate of the Fliegerhorst Kaserne wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and a sentry at the central gate wore red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted]

6. On 9 November, the barracks installation on the road to Rauen was occupied. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. All quarters were fully lighted after nightfall. On 5 November, 5 amphibious vehicles and 3 trucks were seen in the barracks yard. [redacted]

7. On 9 November, the barracks installation on Braunsdorfer Strasse was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The quarters were lighted at dusk. [redacted] A 132-mm rocket launcher, [redacted] was seen leaving the installation. On 7 November, 30 officers and 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 35 percent with tank and 35 percent with artillery insignia, left the installation for a ceremony commemorating the October Revolution at the monument on Roter Platz in Fuerstenwalde.<sup>1</sup>

8. [redacted] the bare structure of the brick buildings under construction in the installation on Langevahler Strasse had been completed. On 5 November, 3 officers and 15 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen in the fenced-in area. The 5 one-story barracks buildings in this area were lighted at dusk. On 5 November, truck [redacted] occupied by 16 officers wearing red-bordered golden epaulets, left this area toward Fuerstenwalde.<sup>1</sup> On 6 November, 25 troops engaged in physical training. [redacted]

9. On 6 November, all buildings of the Pionier Kaserne were lighted after sunset. On 7 November, about 30 officers and 350 troops, including 25 percent wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, 25 percent wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, 25 percent wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and 25 percent wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia, were seen leaving the installation.

10. On 7 November, about 35 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia left the Fliegerhorst installation on occasion of a ceremony for the October Revolution. [redacted]<sup>1</sup>

11. On 29 October, 4 guns which [redacted] were 152-mm field howitzers were entrained at the Ketschendorf railroad station. On 2 November, 2 railroad cars, occupied by about 3 officers and 20 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and 1 railroad car, carrying 1 x 85-mm AA gun, were seen at the Ketschendorf railroad station. On 8 November, a shipment of 1 converted boxcar, 7 gondola cars and 5 boxcars carrying 3 x 85-mm AA guns, 1 x 76-mm AA gun, 1 x 152-mm field howitzer and 3 assault boats was seen at the Ketschendorf railroad station. On 8 November, 1 officer and 30 troops wearing quilted winter uniforms were seen at the Fuerstenwalde freight station.

12. [redacted] the barracks installation on Braunsdorfer Strasse was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. All quartering buildings were fully lighted after nightfall. At about

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3:30 p.m., about 300 troops were lined up in the barracks yard. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] Comment. Prior to mid-November, the occupation of the barracks installations, in which the 7th Gds Mecz Div and the 63d AAA Div (US) are stationed, was as light as in October. The installations appear to be occupied only by major rear details and troops departing and arriving in connection with the personnel exchange. [REDACTED] Similar observations were made in Frankfurt/Oder. Although no confirmation is available from Lieberose, information from the posts tends to indicate that the bulk of the division is still stationed in the Lieberose area. The rocket launchers observed [REDACTED] in the barracks installation on Braunsdorfer Strasse, tend to indicate that the unidentified rocket launcher battalion may be stationed there. It had, so far, been carried in the Ziethen Kaserne in Frankfurt/Oder.

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